

Indiana State Representative Ryan Dvorak

Dear Friends:

The 2004 session of the Indiana General Assembly reconvened on January 8. We have begun to discuss a number of important items, including our continuing efforts to provide Hoosier taxpayers with real property tax relief.



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suggestions in the section provided.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about our state government. Hard work, bipartisanship, and cooperation will assure Indiana has a strong future for years to come.

Helping Hoosiers

Property Tax Relief

The Indiana General Assembly passed a series of reforms in December that help build on the tax restructuring that took place in 2002. The reforms contained in the package approved by the legislature will provide nearly \$500 million in property tax cuts for homes, businesses and farms. They also extended the deadline to file for the Homestead Credit and allowed counties to offer installment plans to homeowners unable to pay with such short notice.

While those provisions will help ease the burden on property taxpayers, I am disappointed we were unable to include additional protections that were approved by the House but killed in the State Senate.

These include additional relief for farmers, owners of older homes, seniors and renters. We have already introduced a package of legislation that addresses these very issues, and I look forward to working to see these measures become law.



Buy American

After a recent controversy over a state agency granting a contract to a foreign corporation, I have introduced legislation that prohibits state funds from being spent on foreign products or services. The same bill also provides a price preference in the bidding process for Indiana companies looking to do business with state government.



I feel it is vitally important that Indiana tax dollars be reinvested in local businesses that provide jobs and grow our economy here at home. There is already a high level of interest in this legislation and I am hopeful for a strong level of support in the House.

Please complete the survey and return it to me or go to www.in.gov/H8 to complete the survey online. A second person of your household may respond in the second set of answers.

2004 Legislative Survey

1. Should local units of government be placed under a hard freeze to limit their ability to raise property taxes?

1. ☐yes ☐no
☐yes ☐no

2. Should township government be eliminated if its functions could be transferred to county government?

2. ☐yes ☐no
☐yes ☐no

3. Indiana's current minimum wage is only \$5.15 an hour. Should it be raised to a level that would at least allow a full-time worker to support a family at or above the poverty line?

3. ☐yes ☐no
☐yes ☐no

4. Should the state require children ages four through seven and under 80 pounds to be restrained in a booster seat in a vehicle?

4. ☐yes ☐no
☐yes ☐no

5. Should passengers in SUV's and other trucks be required to wear seat belts?

5. ☐yes ☐no
☐yes ☐no

6. To reduce jail overcrowding and skyrocketing corrections costs, should judges be given greater options to use community corrections and in-home detention rather than mandatory sentences for non-violent offenders?

6. ☐yes ☐no
☐yes ☐no

7. If you know, did your property taxes go up, down, or stay about the same?

7. ☐up ☐down
☐same
☐up ☐down
☐same

Comments:
